Message Text

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PASS: USDA FOR WITCHER, KARPOFF, FAS; WILLETT, CRON, J.J. MILLER, ERS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR OECD

SUBJECT: ELEVENTH JOINT SESSION WP'S 3(DAIRY) AND

4(MEAT) OF COMM FOR AGR, JULY 11-13, 1977

1. SUMMARY. FORECASTS OF THE DAIRY AND BEEF SITUATIONS IN 1979 AND 1982, AGR/WP3(77)7, AGR/WP4(77)3 DISCUSSED. EARLIER DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BY U.S. DEL. EC FORESAW SHARPER BEEF CYCLE SWINGS THAN PREVIOUSLY ANTICIPATED, WORRIED ABOUT BEEF CONSUMPTION OUTLOOK IN ITALY AND U.K. U.S. BEEF CONSUMPTION DATE PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED REQUIRE RE-EXAMINATION AND RESUBMISSION; THEY APPEAR TO BE CIVILIAN COMSUMPTION DATE UNCLASSIFIED

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UNDERSTATING TOTAL CONSUMPTION. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING CHAIRED BY R. ANHALT (FRANCE) CHMN OF WP
NO. 4. AGENDA ADOPTED, AGR/WP3/A(77)1, AGR/WP4/A(77)2.
U.S. DEL (HIRSCCH) OBSERVED THAT WORKING DOCUMENT FOR
MEETING AGR/WP3(77)7, AGR/WP4(77)3 WAS DATED JULY 1
ACTUALLY BECAME AVAILABLE LATER - BY ANY STANDARD TOO LATE FOR

STUDY AND FORMULATION OF COMMENTS IN CAPITALS. SECRETARIAT WAS DEPRECIATING THE VALUE OF ITS WORK BY OPERATING IN THIS FASHION. SECRETARIAT (VIATTE) BELITTLED CRITICISM BY CALLING AGENDA "JUST A FIRST EXAMINATION" OF MEDIUM-TERM FORECASTS.

- 3. PAPER ON FORECASTS OF THE DAIRY AND BEEF SITUATIONS IN 1979 AND 1982 INTRODUCED BY SECRETARIAT (HAYDOCK).

 EC REP (BJORNSTED) REFERRED TO A STRUCTURAL MILK SURPLUS OF 10 PCT. IN EC. OTHER EC REP (ZWICKERT) FORESAW MORE PRONOUNCED BEEF CYCLE IN EC, SHARPER DAYS IN 1979 THAN PREVIOUSLY PROJECTED AND LARGER PRODUCTION IN 1982.

 CONSUMPTION OUTLOOK IN ITALY AND UK WORRISOME. UK DEL (BRUBACK) CONFIRMED THIS, FORESAW INCREASE IN REAL BEEF PRICE IN 1979 AND THUS DECLINE IN CONSUMPTION. OTHER UK DEL (WILLIAMS) CALLED OUTLOOK FOR DAIRY CONSUMPTION MOST PROBLEMATIC AND DEPENDENT UPON LEVEL OF CONSUMER SUBSIDIES.
- 4. AUSTRIAN DEL (KOENIGWIESER) ALLUDED TO THEIR TWO-PRICE SCHEME TO MAKE IT WORTHWILE FOR FEED COMPOUNDERS TO USE NFDM. FINNISH DEL (ROUHIAINEN) REFERRED TO MEASURES TO GET RID OF MILK SURPLUS SUCH AS MARKETING A MIXTURE OF FUTTER ADN MARGARINE. CANADA (MCCORMACK) REFERRED TO ITS MILK QUOTA SYSTEM WITH SEVERE PENALTY FOR OVERQUOTA DELIVERIES.
- 5. REGARDING U.S., SOME DISCUSSANTS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THE PROJECTED 2-3 PCT. ANNUAL INCREASE IN MILK YIELD PER COW, UNCLASSIFIED

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AT THE INCREASE IN CHEESE CONSUMPTION AND THE DROP IN NFMS CONSUMPTION AND EXPORT AVAILABILITY. A STATISTICAL PROBLEM AROSE WITH U.S. DOMESTIC BEEF AND VEAL CONSUMPTION DATA FOR 1974 AND 1975, THE BASE YEARS FOR THE 1979 AND 1982 PROJECTIONS. IT APPEARS THAT THE DATE SUPPLIED TO OECD (AND MORE RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY ERS IN TABLE 13, LMS-215) PERTAIN TO CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION ONLY. THEY ARE LESS THAN THE SUM OF PRODUCTION AND NET IMPORTS. USING THAT SUM AS TOTAL CONSUMPTION, THE ESTIMATES IN MILLION M.T. CARCASS EQUIVALENT BECOME 11.44 IN 1974 AND 12.06 IN 1975; CONSISTENT PROJECTIONS WOULD BE 11.93 IN 1979 AND 12.25 IN 1982 IMPLYING NET IMPORTS OF 0.90 IN BOTH 1979 AND 1982.

- 6. SECRETARIAT (VIATTE) ASKED DELEGATIONS TO RE-EXAMINE THEIR SUBMISSIONS IN LIGHT OF 1976 DATA AND ESTIMATES FOR 1977 BOTH OF WHICH HAD BECOME AVAILABLE SINCE DATE HAD BEEN SUBMITTED; HE ALSO REQUESTED A BETTER EXPLANATION OF ASSUMPTIONS UNDERLYING CONSUMPTION PROJECTIONS.
- 7. NEXT JOINT MEETING SECOND HALF OF JANUARY 1978 WITH ONE ON FHT TWO WP'S MEETING THE DAY BEFORE AND THE OTHER THE DAY AFTER.

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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